



Dalham and Dunstall Green Parish Council

August 2025



Meeting on traffic through Dalham village

On 9th April the Council held a well attended public meeting in the village hall to discuss issues relating to traffic through the village and potential measures to address these.

Concerns expressed during the meeting included:

- the speed of vehicles entering the village from the south on the Lidgate Road and safety issues relating to this;
- vehicle speeds on Stores Hill, and the difficulties faced by lorries negotiating the narrow point and sharp bend near the bridge over the Kennet at the Affleck Arms;
- pedestrian safety issues relating to traffic through the village; and
- vehicle speeds entering the village and lorry traffic on the Gazeley Road.

The minutes of the meeting can be found on the Dalham Parish Council website at

<https://dalhamparishcouncil.gov.uk> under the section entitled minutes of meetings 2025-26.

A number of means of addressing these issues were discussed at the meeting, although it was noted that some options for traffic calming would not be supported by Suffolk Highways, and others would not be feasible due to cost.

Additional signage, more active speed monitoring and the establishment of a Community Speed Watch group were considered the most practical measures.

20's Plenty campaign

Joining the 20s Plenty campaign was supported by a majority of those present at the meeting, and the council intends to canvass opinion more widely later this year.



20's Plenty for Us

...making your place a better place to be

Speed Survey

Given the concerns expressed at the meeting, the council requested a Speed Survey from Suffolk Highways to establish the speeds of vehicles entering the village along the Lidgate Road and down Stores Hill, as the information derived from the village's vehicle activated speeding sign to date has not been sufficient to gain support for some traffic calming measures.

The Survey was carried out between 11th and 22nd July and results will be discussed at the next parish council meeting on September 10th. We are grateful for the financial contribution from our County Councillor Andy Drummond towards the cost of carrying out the survey.

Community Speed Watch and ANPR

With additional volunteers recruited at the meeting in April, we should now be able to establish a Community Speed Watch group for Dalham. The group will be able to start monitoring speeds and recording individual offenders once training has been received from Suffolk Police.

In addition, Suffolk Highways continues to utilise mobile ANPR systems to address speeding through local villages, including Dalham. Dates of visits are not announced in advance.



Volunteers required to help monitor traffic



Whilst we now have just enough volunteers to start a Community Speed Watch group, this would be more effective with larger numbers. In addition, volunteers are required to help monitor and maintain the vehicle activated speeding sign in the village.

Anyone who would be able to help out with either of these important tasks is requested to contact the parish clerk Antonia King at clerk@dalhamparishcouncil.gov.uk

Annual Parish Meeting and parish precept for 2025-26

The annual parish meeting and annual meeting of the parish council were held on 14th May and the minutes of both and the reports submitted by the chairman of the council, Dalham PCC and the chairman of the village hall can be found on the parish council website

The council was pleased to report that despite additional expenditures on verge cutting and IT costs, the increase in the precept for the parish for the forthcoming year to April 2026 was restricted to 1.27%, well below the rate of inflation and equivalent to only 80p per year for a Band D household in the parish.

This reflected the fact that the costs relating to the installation of a new bench for the village by the River Kennett adjacent to the footpath to Moulton and the (yet to be installed) replacement road sign at the junction of the Denham and Dunstall Green Road were met with funding provided by our District Councillor Mike Chester and our County Councillor Andy Drummond respectively. We are grateful for their support and for the assistance of those volunteers who helped with village projects last year.

Request for information on River Kennett

Finally, the council has been in contact with the River Lark Catchment Partnership, a body working to restore the Lark to a more wildlife friendly condition. The RCLP is interested in obtaining any historical photographs or other information from villagers who can remember the 1968 flood in the parish. Any memories of the River Kennett prior to the dredging of the deeper channel through the village carried out after 1968 would also be very useful. Please contact our parish clerk if you can help -clerk@dalhamparishcouncil.gov.uk

